IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No .:

Unknown (U.S. Continuation of PCT/US02/08829)

International App Filed:

March 21, 2002

Applicants:

James L. Day and Donald A. Lincoln

Title:

Skull Clamp With Load Distribution Indicators

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

October 17, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the application as follows.

Amendment to the Specification

Please add to the beginning of the Specification.

This application is a continuation of PCT Application Serial No.

PCT/US02/08829, filed on March 21, 2002, and entitled "Skull Clamp With Load

Distribution Indicators," which is currently pending, and which is a PCT/US continuation application claiming priority to previously filed U.S. Application Serial No. 09/836,650, filed on April 17, 2001, and bearing the same title. The '650 application is now issued as U.S.

Patent No. 6,629,982 B2. Applicants respectfully claim priority to both of these prior U.S. applications via Title 35, USC, Section 120.